

Missouri's Top Openings

2005-2007

Missouri is projected to have more than 200,000 job openings from 2005 to 2007. During this time, the 20 occupations with the most projected total openings in the state include four food preparation and serving occupations, four office and administrative occupations, and three occupations that are sales-related. Job openings are classified as "Growth" or "Replacement" openings. Growth openings are new jobs that are added to the economy, while replacement openings are vacancies created by worker mobility or retirements, but are not new jobs.

Cashiers are projected to have the most openings from 2005 to 2007, though all the openings are projected to be replacements. This occupation has a Grade D due to the lack of growth in the occupation and lower than average wages. Registered Nurses, on the other hand, have more openings due to growth than replacements indicating strong future demand in that occupation in the state. This combination of above average total openings, fast growth and higher than average wages for Registered Nurses merit its Grade A career outlook. Overall, twelve of the 20 fastest growing occupations have a Grade A or B outlook in terms of having above average openings, growth and wages.

SOC	Occupation Title	2005 Estimated Employment	2007 Projected Employment	Total Openings	Openings Due to Growth	Openings Due to Replacements	Average Annual Wage	Career Grade
41-2011	Cashiers	78,440	78,240	10,149	0	10,149	\$16,660	D
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	93,430	96,040	10,134	2,610	7,524	\$23,180	B
35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, incl. Fast Food	58,900	60,450	7,963	1,543	6,420	\$15,020	C
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	54,220	55,540	7,661	1,327	6,334	\$14,770	C
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	87,820	88,850	4,937	1,033	3,904	\$22,710	B-
29-1111	Registered Nurses	53,800	55,870	4,056	2,064	1,992	\$49,690	A
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	43,040	43,430	3,631	394	3,237	\$22,770	D
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except. Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	49,730	51,410	3,554	1,682	1,872	\$19,050	B
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	29,160	28,600	2,913	0	2,913	\$21,330	D
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	40,560	42,020	2,638	1,468	1,170	\$29,050	A-
47-2031	Carpenters	35,870	37,430	2,615	1,564	1,051	\$41,520	A+
39-9011	Child Care Workers	26,900	27,850	2,514	949	1,565	\$16,910	C+
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Mfg, Except. Tech & Scientific	30,560	31,320	2,341	760	1,581	\$53,220	A-
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	45,060	45,920	2,202	856	1,346	\$36,260	B+
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	29,950	30,910	2,122	954	1,168	\$36,330	A-
51-2092	Team Assemblers	39,500	39,400	2,017	0	2,017	\$28,380	D
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	18,250	18,710	1,911	462	1,449	\$19,400	B-
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	7,960	8,200	1,910	236	1,674	\$15,460	C+
43-3071	Tellers	13,430	13,790	1,887	361	1,526	\$21,090	B
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Educ.	23,240	23,860	1,843	615	1,228	\$39,510	A-

Data Sources: MERIC Short-term Occupational Projections, MERIC Occupational Employment and Wage Survey and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Career Grades are assigned by analyzing an occupation's percent change, total openings and average wage relative to all other occupations in the state. An occupation's combination of scores on these three factors determines its grade.